

## **RECAP**

### **Auburn State Recreation Area Trail Usage/Safety Meeting**

October 15, 2013 (next meeting: October 15, 2013)

Auburn City Hall, Rose Room • 1225 Lincoln Way • Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Meeting Attendees,

Below you will find a recap of the October 15 meeting's discussion. We hope you will be able to come to the November 5 meeting, 7 pm (City Hall, Rose Room).

#### **November 5 Meeting Agenda**

- Welcome and overview of the meetings' goals.
- Introductions
- Presentation by Western States Trail Safety Alliance
- Summary of options for increasing trail user group safety.
- Suggestions and discussion: How to proceed?

Included in this document are the following:

- Communication from ASRA Ranger Jon Brandt concerning ASRA new trail development issues.
- Policy statement from the Western States Trail Foundation regarding the protection of the Western States Trail.
- In lieu of a bulky electronic document containing the trail usage policies from other organizations, a list of the links to these documents.
- A link to the pdf of Mark Falcone's presentation.

Sincerely,

Auburn Endurance Capital Committee

Cynci Calvin, Colleen Conley, Lisa Kodl, Robert Miller, Harvey Roper, Bob Snyder

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#### October 15, 2013 Trail User and Safety Meeting Recap

Attendees: Heath Wakelee, Donna Williams, Donna Furlow, Judy Suter, Bob Suter, Kathie Perry, Phil Gardner, Chuck Stalley, Tim Twietmeyer, Mark Falcone, Jeff Barker, Diana Boyer, Mike Bean, Dan Luper, Jeff Barker, Tom Ward, Dawn Tebbs, Dan Tebbs, Justin Cileo, Jessica Cileo, Pete MacRostie, Todd Silski, Susan Paiva, Jeff Dunkle, Jesse Warda, Jared Mickel, Mark Pecotzeh, Mark Engeman, Rex Maynard, Becky Maynard, Cynci Calvin, Colleen Conley, Lisa Kodl, Robert A. Miller, Harvey Roper, John Mackey, Scott Liske, Jon Brandt

- Greeting and overview of meeting goals by Endurance Capital Committee member, Harvey Roper
- Attendee Introductions
- Auburn State Recreation Area Insights by Jon Brandt and Scott Liske
  - Revised General Plan to start up again in January, 2014
  - It is currently about ½ to 2/3 done.
  - It is not only about trails and roads but addresses issues concerning hunting, dredging, homeless, hazards and more.

- The department looks forward to this committee's input as we are helping them do their work.
- Test plans that are carefully planned, documented, communicated, and agreed by a majority of users are not out of the question for implementation.
- Presentation of Review of Trail Usage Material presented at the Sept. 24 meeting, by Mark Falcone
  - Mark's presentation showed how the different plans shown in the trail user documents booklet would help to meet the challenges (below) listed by the attendees at the Sept. 24 meeting.
    - Enforcement
    - Sharing of Trail Maintenance
    - Construction of New Trails
    - Education/Communication
    - Safety
    - Trail designations
    - Pilot program developed from inventory of existing trails
    - Conforming to state regulations
    - Saturation of existing trails by growing user groups
    - Accuracy of data
    - Entitlements
    - Legislation updates
    - Communication within User Organizations
  - Additional information from Mark relating to these documents and other organizations
    - Tahoe Rim Trail Association: Mt. Rose to Mt. Spooner trail odd-even days are not mandatory and are undergoing a 5 to 6 year trial period. TRT wants it to be mandatory and are working in that direction.
    - USFS Mt. Baker, OR: had user groups meetings similar to ours 4 year ago; did a 3-year test for odd-even days but used monthly time frames (i.e. June to Oct.); policy became mandatory in 2012.
    - Boulder Alliance Canyon Loop: similar to TRT; works closely with government agencies; uses multi-user volunteers for enforcement.
    - National Trails Training Partnership: involved in construction, trail etiquette education, alternative day zoning options
    - General impact of different trail users on the health of the trails: motorized vehicles (atvs, motorcycles, dirt bikes) have the most impact; the percentages of user groups impact shown in other locations are not necessarily comparable to ASRA due to the variation in the numbers of different user groups and in the types of trails.
    - Western States Trail Safety Alliance: Although mountain bikes are allowed only on the Quarry Rd. Trail section of the Western States Trail (from the parking lot to Main Bar, the USFS has opened a portion of the WS Trail near Cougar Rock to mountain bikes and motorcycles leading land owners to put up locked gates. "Upper WS Trail" is suffering damage, trash, and compromised safety from motorcycle traffic.
- Next Steps
  - Review of ASRA Trail System
  - Develop a plan for safe and fair trail usage
  - New trails
  - Parallel trails
  - Time of usage for different user groups
  - 1, 2, 5 year plans

- Smaller teams of representatives from the different user groups
- Additional Discussion
  - Scott Liske – curious to know “Who broke the multi-use Foresthill Divide Loop?” brief discussion concluded that since it is one of the very few places mountain bikers can ride, it became very popular with them, so other user groups (runners, equestrians) are no longer comfortable there. It is a good example of the need for both usage guidelines and for equal trail opportunities for all the user groups.
  - Volunteer trail maintenance groups are approved by the CA State Parks
  - What is the mission statement for these Endurance Capital Committee organized meetings: “The ECC’s mission for these meetings is to develop a plan to present to the ASRA administrators that will satisfy the needs of Auburn State Recreation Area’s trail user groups (hikers, runners, mountain bike riders, and equestrians) with respect and safety for all.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm.

**Next Meeting Nov. 5, 2013 at 7 pm, Auburn City Hall, Rose Room**

**Tentative Agenda**

- Welcome and overview of the meeting’s goals.
- Introductions
- Presentation by Western States Trail Safety Alliance
- Summary of options for increasing trail user group safety.
- Suggestions and discussion: How to proceed?